



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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The Federal "duck stamp" for the 1945-46 hunting season will feature as its central design three shoveller ducks in flight, Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes announced today.

The design for the new stamp is the work of Owen J. Gromme, curator of birds and mammals at the Milwaukee Public Museum in Milwaukee, Wis. The original sketch, in black and white water color, shows two male and one female shovellers in full spring plumage.

Twelfth in the series, the new migratory bird hunting stamp, universally called "duck stamp" is now on its way to the engravers and will be available to hunters and philatelists at all first and second class post offices on July 1, according to the Fish and Wildlife Service.

Sold for \$1, the duck stamps provide funds that help finance the Federal Government's refuge program. Ninety per cent of the money realized from the sale of the stamps is used by the Fish and Wildlife Service to supplement other funds for the purchase and maintenance of waterfowl refuges throughout the country. The remaining 10 per cent is used for the printing and distribution of the stamps, enforcement of the Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp Act, and other Federal activities for migratory bird conservation.

Required by law of all migratory-waterfowl hunters over 16 years old, the so-called duck stamps provide the only available index to the number of wild-fowlers in the country, says the Service. During the ~~1944-45~~ ¹⁹⁴³⁻⁴⁴ hunting season 1,169,352 stamps were sold.

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